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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

S/S

3 NOV 1977

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TO: The Deputy Secretary

FROM: ARA - William P. Stedman, Acting

SUBJECT: Your Meeting with Argentine Deputy Foreign Minister, Navy Captain Gualter Allara - Friday, November 4 - 3:30 pm

PARTICIPANTS

US

The Deputy Secretary
Assistant Secretary Todman
ARA/ECA - James Bumpus
(notetaker)

(interpreter)

ARGENTINA

Deputy Foreign Minister,
Navy Captain Gualter Allara
Ambassador Jorge Aja Espil
Minister Carlos Arlia
Minister Miguel Espeche Gil

KEY ISSUES

1. The Secretary's Visit

U.S. Objective: The United States views the visit as an opportunity to continue the bilateral conversations begun at the time of the Panama Canal Treaty Signing Ceremony between Presidents Carter and Videla.

Argentine Objective: To demonstrate that Argentina is a responsible, prominent member of the world community.

Essential Factors: President Carter's bilateral with President Videla centered on human rights and nuclear non-proliferation. We expect that those again will be the main topics when Secretary Vance visits Argentina. Allara's talk with you probably will concentrate on human rights. He will have been at the UNGA and the OAS where he has pushed strongly for inclusion of a condemnation of terrorism in any consideration of human rights. (The

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(X) Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: () In Part (X) In Full

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Date Declassify on Reason

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Argentines claim human rights violations by governments are often a reaction to terrorism.)

A recent upsurge in terrorism in Argentina probably will be mentioned by Allara; two Armed Forces officers were assassinated, three businessmen were killed and the office of the Labor Minister and the home of a Chrysler executive were bombed within the last two weeks.

President Videla told President Carter that he hoped to have resolved the cases of some 4,000 political detainees by Christmas. The government has made little noticeable progress in this endeavor; the right of option, which was restored in late September, has not led to numerous prisoners released. We believe there may be as few as twenty who have actually left the country.

President Videla personally wrote President Carter in October informing him of the status of the Deutsch family, a case that had been discussed during the bilateral. The Argentines released three of the family members and will try two in military courts.

Points to be Made

-- We appreciated the frank and candid exchange of opinions carried on between Presidents Carter and Videla at their bilateral in September.

-- We look forward to a continuation of this dialogue when the Secretary visits Argentina.

-- We regret the recent upsurge of terrorist activity in Argentina, but we cannot condone those actions as justifying counterterrorist measures that violate human rights.

-- President Videla told President Carter that he hoped to have resolved by Christmas the cases of the some 4,000 political detainees. We hope this will be possible.

-- How does the Argentine government now view the situation of the detainees.

-- We are still troubled by reports of torture in Argentina.

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-- We continue to hear of disappearances. These are of great concern to us and to the Congress, which is evidencing great interest in the human rights situation in Argentina.

-- In August, Interior Minister Harguendeguy stated that the government would investigate disappearance cases. We are unaware of the results of these investigations, but hope that progress has been made.

-- The cutoff of military training funds for Argentina in 1978 is a result of this concern.

-- Recently, we were able to approve export licenses for submarine periscopes and advisory opinions for the sale of three Chinook helicopters and two Lockheed KC-130 tanker aircraft. These were not easy decisions, and, of course, under the Humphrey/Kennedy Amendment such sales will no longer be possible after October 1, 1978, when Congress mandated a stop to arms sales.

-- We have disapproved other requests.

-- A recent U. S. negative vote in the Inter-American Development Bank of an Argentine loan for gas/pipeline was occasioned by human rights considerations, and we will continue to have difficulties with IFI loans.

-- Human rights will be only one of the topics considered. What other issues will Argentina wish to discuss?

Attachment:

Biographic Information

Drafted:ARA/ECA:JNBumpus:jc
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